

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRUSSE 00590 111612Z  
ACTION STR-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 STRE-00 SSO-00  
NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00  
COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 FRB-03 H-01 INR-07 INT-05  
L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 PA-01 CTME-00 AID-05 SS-15  
ITC-01 TRSE-00 PRS-01 SP-02 SOE-02 OMB-01 DOE-11  
/113 W

-----118199 111617Z /53

O 111556Z JAN 78  
FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4183  
INFO ALL EC CAPITALS  
AMEMBASSY TOKYO  
USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRUSSELS 00590

USEEC

DEPT PASS STR ELECTRONICALLY  
GENEVA FOR USMTN

FOR AMBASSADOR STRAUSS FROM HINTON

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: ETRD, EEC  
SUBJECT: MTN

REF: BRUSSELS 00525

1. CONCERNING 113 COMMITTEE MEETING JAN. 10 ON MTN, I  
HAVE TALKED WITH AMBASSADOR RIBERHOLDT, CHAIRMAN OF  
COREPER, AND SIR ROY DENMAN, COMMISSION DIRECTOR GENERAL  
FOR EXTERNAL RELATIONS, AND MY STAFF HAS TALKED WITH  
OTHERS IN COMMISXIN AND ON NATIONAL DELEGATIONS.

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2. SITUATION SEEMS TO BE AS FOLLOWS:

ATMOSPHERE IN COMMITTEE WAS GOOD AND THERE WAS GENERAL  
AGREEMENT THAT NEXT PHASE OF NEGOTIATION SHOULD START  
JAN. 23. 8 COUNTRIES AGREED THAT OFFERS SHOULD BE MADE  
ON 40 PERCENT BASIS, ALTHOUGH THERE WAS SOME GRUMBLING  
AND BRITISH EMPHASIZED THAT THIS WAS ONLY STARTING POINT

SUBJECT TO SUBSEQUENT REDUCTION, PRESUMABLY THROUGH WITHDRAWAL PROCEDURE. FRENCH POSITION WAS NOT DEFINITE BUT ARGUMENTS ADVANCED WERE ALMOST ALL IN OPPOSITION TO 40 PERCENT. SEVERAL MEMBER STATES (BELGIUM WAS SPECIFICALLY IDENTIFIED) GAVE THEM SOME PSYCHOLOGICAL SUPPORT, I.E., EXPRESSING UNDERSTANDING FOR THEIR ELECTORAL DIFFICULTIES, BUT ALSO SAID THAT THEY WERE CONVINCED BY COMMISSION POLITICAL CASE THAT 40 PERCENT FIGURE WAS ESSENTIAL IF JAN. 23 DATE IS TO BE MET AND

IF UNRAVELING OF PACKAGE IS TO BE AVOIDED. COMMISSION REPORTEDLY WARNED THAT FAILURE TO PROCEED ON 40 PERCENT BASIS COULD COLLAPSE ENTIRE NEGOTIATION.

3. FRENCH REP, IN ADDITION TO ARGUING THAT 40 PERCENT IS TOO MUCH, SAID ITS ADOPTION WOULD REQUIRE EXTENSIVE EXCEPTIONS. HE ADVOCATED THAT COMMUNITY SHOULD PROCEED ON LESS PRECISE BASIS, MENTIONED POSSIBILITY OF A BAND BUT WITHOUT IDENTIFYING POSSIBLE MINIMUM/MAXIMUM NUMBERS FOR SUCH A BAND, AND ASSERTED THAT DEPTH OF TARIFF CUT SHOULD BE LAST ELEMENT DECIDED IN NEGOTIATIONS. HE APPARENTLY MENTIONED DANGER THAT SELECTIVE SAFEGUARD PROVISION MIGHT SLIP AWAY AND URGED THAT SAFEGUARDS AS WELL AS OTHER ELEMENTS BE NAILED DOWN BEFORE 40 PERCENT FIGURE AGREED ON. (I EMPHASIZED TO MY SOURCES - WHO MUST BE PROTECTED - THAT NOTHING WAS AGREED UNTIL EVERY-  
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THING WAS AGREED AND THAT 40 PERCENT FIGURE WAS A WORKING HYPOTHESIS.) FRENCH ALSO DREW ATTENTION TO ADVERSE IMPACT ON HARMONIZATION OBJECTIVE OF COMMUNITY FLOWING FROM U.S. INABILITY TO MAKE MORE THAN 60 PERCENT REDUCTIONS.

4. WE ARE TOLD THAT COMMISSION GAVE UP IN FACE OF OPPOSITION ON SOME UNIDENTIFIED NON-TARIFF BARRIER OFFERS BUT THAT MEMBER STATES REMOVED NUMBER OF RESERVATIONS (BUT FAR FROM ALL) CONCERNING AGRICULTURAL OFFERS. 113 COMMITTEE DEPUTIES WILL BE MEETING AGAIN ON THESE POINTS.

5. HAFERKAMP AND DENMAN HAVE APPOINTMENT WITH BARRE THURSDAY IN PARIS, AND THAT OBVIOUSLY IS CRUCIAL. WHILE THEY WILL GO ON TO LONDON ON FRIDAY, AS OF NOW JUDGMENT HERE IS THAT BRITISH ARE ON BOARD. HINTON

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** NEGOTIATIONS, MEETING REPORTS  
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**Draft Date:** 11 jan 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
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